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THE ART OF MEMORY, THAT otherwyse is called the Phenix. A boke very behouefull and profytable to all profefsours of fcyences. Grammaryens/Rethoryciens Dialectyke/Legyftes/ Phyloſophres & Theologiens.

1 17 Syn 8, 54, 95

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syde of the gate fro the whiche men go in the ryght pathe or yle to the hygh auter ther I fyx and ordayne the fyrst place, and the seconde on ỹ walle next it a.b.or.bi.fote of. And yf there be any notable thynge set, as a pyler in the wyndowe, or other lyke, there put the place. And yf the notable thyng be nat there, or lacke I feyn that in my ymagynation or at myne arbytre ymagynary although some forgynge these placs wolde leaue thẽ, fearynge that he shulde put in forgetfulnes. The thynge opposyd to that is taken & suffred, so that he be myndfull to haue constytued and ordeyned the place. And so to be ꝓceded fro place to place tyl ỹ ỹ fabrycant of ỹ places retourne to the same gate. And these thynges to be done on ỹ fyrste walle of the churche, al thyngs lest that be in the myds therof. And yf

any desyre to haue ỹ circũferẽce of the places entre by ordre in to a monastery, and fyll it ful all of places or cõpare the places on the walles without the churche. And he that wylbe remẽbred of many thynges, must cõpare many places. But bicause ỹ I haue wylled to surmoũt all the men of Italy by habundaũce of thynges and holy scryptures, in Canone lawe and Cyuyl, and in other authorytees of many thynges, whyle that I was but ponge adolescent I haue prepared a C. M. places. And now I haue added to them ỹ other x. M. places wherin I haue put the thynges which are to say & vtter by my selfe, so ỹ they be promptemẽts whan I wyll experyment the vertues and strengthes of my memory. And whan I do leaue my coũtre alligned I visite ỹ cytyes of Italy as a pylgryme or

a way-

¶ The prologue of this present boke.

For asmuch as many (ithꝫ tyme moderne ẏ p̄sētly rēneth) be of a slow memory & late mynded, this lytell boke was made & composed, for to gyue and presēt it to all people, albeit that at the begynnynge it was dyrected to the Italyke nacion. Knowe ye therfore all noble reders that yf any do kepe these preceptes and cōmaūdementes of this boke, easyly & in shorttyme he may touch ẏ sūmite, & reach ẏ heyght ofthꝫ art It is of a great effect and profyt to them that haue nat theyr myndes prompte, stronge and redy. For it semeth more to be inuented by dyuyne inspyracion than by arte or scyence of mankynde. I haue also founde by wrytynge that whan the

authour of this presēt worke expe-
rymented his knowledge through
al the Itallies that many affirmed
to haue leyne this worke more dy-
uyne than humayne, so that some
dyd blysse thē by great admiracion
The authour reported that he had
no teacher of this art, but ẏ it came
to hym by inuencion throughe the
socour and help of god that lyght-
ned and inspired his spyrite. Rede
therfore my preceptes ryght dere ⁊
dyscret persones and yf thou take
laboure ⁊ dyligence to vnderstāde
these purposes perfytly thou shalt
gather the grayne therof, and bere
with the great ⁊ prosperous worke
of proffytte and honoure.

THe fyrste conclusyon shalbe
suche. This arte is, and con-
systeth of places and magnytudes
The places be as cardes or scrolls
or other

or other thynges for to wrytte in. The ymages be ỹ symylytudes of the thynges that we wyll retayne in mynde. Than I wyl fyrst ꝓpare my carde wherin we may colloke & ordre ỹ ymages in places. And for the foundacion of this fyrst cõclusyon I wyll put foure rules. THE fyrste is this. The places are the wyndowes set in walles, pyllers, & anglets, with other lyke. THE.ii. rule is. The places ought nat to be to nere togyther nor to fare a lõder. For the nereneſſe trouble greatly the natural memory, by the oppolytion of thynges for yf ỹ places were to fare dyſtaunt. We wyl recyte with a lytel leaſer the thynges that ſhalbe gyuen to places, where by they ſhalbe of meane dyſtaunce. And that ſhalbe done whan one is. vi. fote fro ỹ other. THE.iii. rule is ſuche. But it is vayne as me ſe-

meth. For it is the oppynyon of talkers that the places ought nat to be made where as me do haunt, as in churche and comyn places. For it suffyseth to haue sene church vacaunt wher as people walke nat al way and in that hath ben taught ꝯ cõtrary experyence. Whiche is the mayster of those thynges. THE. iiii. rule is thꝭ. That the places be nat to hye. For I wyl that the men set for the ymages or in the steade of ymages may touch the places, ꝯ whiche I haue iudged as behouefull. I take than the churche greatly knowen by me, the partyes wher of I do cõsyder, and go into it walkynge it. iii. or. iiii. tymes, and thã retourne home to my house, & there I tourne in my thought to remembre the thynges by me sene. And in that maner I gyue the begynnyng of the worke to ꝯ places on ꝯ tyght

lyde

Zorobabell, than set ỹ same thynge that is spokē or named in his place I say asmuche ot lyke thynges in names of beastes as of the hors, ỹ ore, and asse, do that the hors be set in the fyrst place. In the seconde ỹ ore, and the asse in the thyrde. And thus must be done in thynges that haue no lyke, as the boke, the cote, ỹ gowne, & of other thynges in lykewyse. But be wel ware that thou be nat deceyued, yf the boke were set in the fyrst place, and the cote in ỹ seconde for so thou mayste symply whan thou shulde recyte ỹ names The offyce of this arte is to excyte the mynde naturall ỹ neuer is nat nor can be admonested. For ỹ gest of the ymage is to set and vnset & appoſyted therfore ỹ ought to be set in the place that moueth. And yf it can nat moeue to be moeued with another, put such a thynge in

the

the hande of mouer, bycause that by the mouynge the memozy be moued to the naturall. But some yonge man of his spyzyte & subtyll wyt wyll saye that these pzeceptes & commaundementes be nat perfyte in all partyes. Foz ỹ ampt set in the place moueth. And howbeit bycause that it is so lytell it cā nat moue foz the grayne of peper put ī the hande of the mouer noz also lyft it, whiche I graunt, yf ỹ onely ampt be there collocat. But yf ye set a multytude of ampts moū ynge & descēdynge on a tree. That ỹ ỹ onely ampt coude nat do alone, ỹ multytude wyll do it. And the frende also wyll moue in the place dyuers graynes of peper. Some other yonglynge wyll cōtraryenge. The full bely doth nat moue me ỹ multytude of fleas, may nat be set noz well collocated. But I wyll collocat

eat there for the flea the frende ta-
kynge a flea. And I haue afore set
in the place of the flea the ryghte
excellent mayster of all thē of oure
tyme the good phisitien Gyrard of
Uelonne, ỹ whiche I behelde ones
takynge a flea.

The.iii.cōclusyon is al of gold
yf I take men for the lettres
of the alphebete, and so I haue the
lyuynge amages. For I set for the
lettre. A. Anthony. B. for Benet, &
so the other persones and names of
whom the fyrst lettre is that which
I wyll collocat. And I do set by ỹ
lettres some fayre maydēs for they
excyte greatly my mynde and fre-
quentation whan I was ponge I
dyd collocat Junipere pistozien or
of pyse which I loued greatly. Be-
leue hardily to my sayenges that
yf I set the fāyre maydens mooste
faryly

facylly and decently recyte this ẏ I haue set in my memory. Reteyne thꝫ secret very behoueful thā into ẏ artificiall memory, whiche I haue of a lōge whyle put in science. And for feare of blame or shame ẏ thou wolde haue a remembraunce incō-tynent collocat fayre maidens. For the mynde by the location of may-dens & vyrgyns is a merueylous mouynge to hym that hathe sene ẏ wytnes testyfyeth the thynge. But this behouefull precept can nat ꝓ-fyt to thē that haue women in hate and dyspyle thē. Nor shall nat fo-lowe the fruyt of this art but dyffi-cylly, and slowly, howbeit all good and chast men are except. For the preceptes ẏ hath borne me so much honesty I ought nat to hyde, saing ẏ I desyre, & enforce me ẇ all my powers to leaue it to my successors excellently lerned in goodnes.

The

a waykarer. I may frely say that I here with me all my thynges, and yet I ceas nat to edyfy. I do you to wyte ỹ the places in any churche or mynster is sene onely for to repose & marke the thigs which must be recyted euery day as be ỹ argumentes, reasons, hystoryes, fables and predicacions made in Lenten. And let this office be deputed to these places onely. And I haue set & declared at the ende for these places a thynge that shalbe Judged necessary and vtile. For I wyl that the yonge infãts shalbe couyetous herof by my ryght documẽt ensygned by the places so constytuted & put in ordre, by oftẽ repetynge, thre or foure tymes in a moneth.

For the repetition of placs can nat be praysed in any maner.

The seconde conclusyon shalbe that whan any hath the carde or scroll I wyll shewe the maner to wryt in the same, as I was some tyme beynge yonge adolescent in ỹ cõpany of sondry noble mẽ. It was proposed of thẽ to recyte names of men, that one of ỹ assysten s shulde say I denye nat that. And these be the names that folowe. I dyd set in the fyrst place a certayne frende of myne hauynge the same name. In the seconde place lykewyse, and as names dyd I colloke ꝛ set in place as they had named, and they thus collocated were by me recyted afterwarde. And let the collocatoure aduyse him to set alway his frende doynge the thynge that he is accũstomed to do comynly, and procede this cõclusion clerely, and names knowen. And yf the frende be knowen haue suche a name Bordrab,

Zozo

The.iiii.conclucion is, that the ymages of the alphabete, or ỹ names demonstratyfs of lies shuld be well reteyned & fyxed in myude and often repeted, I begyne than this wyse yf it chaũce me to sette in place of this copulatyue. And I set in place Eusebe & Thomas, howe beit that in this ordre eusebe be in place, & Thomas standynge afore hym, but yf Thomas holde of eusebe, and eusebe holde the copulatif of Thomas that is mas, ỹ of mas we se this pronowne of Thomas And in ỹ place apposed in this arte the rule is suche that fyrst in ordre is mooste preised of the place, and so of the ende. And fyrst we wryte in this copulatyfe and lykewyse in ỹ place. And lyke thinges is to be obserued generally in all dyctions, & other thigs to be colloqued.

The

8v

The.v.cõclusiõ is i ẏ syllables of.iii.letts, in whõ we ꝓcede thus, for yf ẏ vowel be in ẏ myddel as thꝫ syllable(bar) I take than ẏ ymage of the last lettre and adde some thinge therto, of the which let be ẏ begynnyng in lykewyse to the two other letters ẏ do procede. Thã yf I set in the place of Raymonde smyttynge the place with his stafe, the syllable(bar) shalbe reysed in ẏ place. And yf Symon hyt ẏ place we shall haue the syllable belowe. Than lete this rule be kept whiche is thus. Repeted there where ẏ vowel is in the myddle of the syllable of the letters the ymage of the laste letter. R. is taken apposynge another mobyle, or mouynge her selfe to the two letters afore. But yf the vowell beyne the ende as the syllable(bra) than I colloke to ẏ ymage of ẏ fyrst letter of ẏ thynge mobyle

or mo-

or mouynge, wherof lete the begyn
nynge be lyke to ẏ two folowynge
Than I set & appose Benet amōge
the Frogges in the place shal haue
the syllable(bra)And yf I set Tho=
mas I shall haue the syllable(tra)
The habundaunce than of these
thynges that begyn as the syllable
yf they be redyly had bere great v=
tylyte and profyte. But yf the vo=
well be in the begynninge, making
any syllabl; as ī th; word(Amo)thā
alway the ymage of the fyrst letter
is to be colloqued in the place of ẏ
thynge hauynge hys lyke begyn=
nynge of the syllable folowe, yf ẏ
harnest turne ẏ mylstone, th; worde
(Amo)set there shalbe ẏ place. And
yf, this eusebe, rede, this word, enio
to vs ye must alway knowe yf we
may ꝓfytably collocat, the diction
of thre or foure syllables, and it is
no nede. For in vayne one is to be

made by many thynges whan it may be by few. It ſuffyſeth to haue ſet the fyrſt or ſeconde ſyllable, we may alwayes collocat the totall dyction of two ſyllables as, Pater, I wyl ſet in the place the thynge or ỹ man for the ymage of the ſyllable. Pa. as Paule, and for the ſyllable, ter, ſythe that the vowell is in the myddel I wyl take Raymonde haynge a ppece of lynnene clothe in his hande. I conclude than thus nobly that the ymages of ỹ alphabete adioyned togyther, and the habundance of ỹ thynges begynning as the ſyllables wyl lerne vs euer, yf the ymages do lacke in thẽ. For yf I can haue other I wyl leaue theſe wherof we ſhal ſpeke in the other concluſions.

The. vi. conclucyon is in theſe dyctions, breade, wyne, wood, and other like. And in al dygnitees

as is

as is the Emperour, the kynge. &c
And so of eche I make collocacion
by the sõunde of ỹ voyce, the which
all thynges do vnderstande, and ỹ
Rustykes in theyr demonstration,
and to speake moze eupdẽt they are
concozdunge & vnykozmal in speche
vulgar and latyn. In suche dycti-
ons I demaunde none other yma-
ges. But put that same that ỹ sayd
dyction soũde, and all the syllables
of suche dyctions may be by good
mention collocate easyly. Foz in ỹ
body of man I haue sounde yma-
ges of cases so that the head is the
case Iuuima. The ryght hande the
genityfe. The lyft hande ỹ datyue,
The ryght fote the accusatyue, the
lyfte fote the vocatyue. And the
bely oz stomake the ablatyue. And
foz the synguler nõbze I set a fayze
mayden naked. And foz the plurell
the same mayde, well arayed and

rychely or her that I wolde be remembred of. Or I wyll collocate some thynge, or a man yt is be some thynge as bread I wyll collocate a mayden all naked in the place touchynge ỹ bread with her ryght kote And yf I wyll collocat any dyctiõ I set a man constytued in offyce or dygnyte as a Bysshop, I collocat a Bysshop in the place, smytynge ỹ bare erth with his ryght kote. And yf thou consyder dylygently these thynges, O ryght swete reder, thys mention wyll shew very goodly vnto the, and thus I was accustomed for to collocat these dyctions.

The.vii. conclusyon is that we may collocat dyctions by soũde of the voyce, Jestures of the body, of the symylytudes, and of their ymages. I vse it ofter for I set my frende for the dyction. I knew a doctour

ctour that had alway in his mouth communication of ỹ law spekynge of the tyme of appellations. Thys doctour of law sayde he coulde say all the lawe by herte or rote only I than wyllynge to collocat the sayd lawe I set thys dolour that alway hytteth laughters, & by the Jestes of the body are set ỹ ymages whan any Jestures be made in the dyction I make my frēde (for this worde spolio) the whiche dyspoyleth another. And for this worde, Rapio, I set my frende raupsshynge somewhat by force, by symplytude I set the ymages whan I fynde ỹ thyng at the dyction semblable letters, howbeit that they are vnlyke in sygnyfycation whan I colloke well for this worde cano.

The.viii.conclusyon is for the lordes Jurisconsultes, a lawyers. And I wyll begyne to speake

of the volumes of the cyuyll lawe. And whan I wyll gyue these thynges to the places I take ỳ colours of ỳ couerynges, as for F. veteri. a blacke skynne. For ỳ Code a grene skynne. For a volume a skynne of varyable colour. For the institutions a lytell boke. And ỳ autentyke a Notary hauynge a great Instrument. For ỳ autentike I set a mayden hauynge a pryuylege. For the boke of feodes, I set some castell. For the decret autentyke I sette an olde man wrytynge in the place, by cause ỳ auctorytees of holy fathers is in it. For ỳ decretalles a bysshop syttynge in a chayre. For clementynes, a mayden named Clemence. For the syxt, an instrument, so called in Italy, wherof Ouyde wryteth. Altera pars staret, pars altera duceret orbet. For ỳ commẽtatours of the lawe I set thẽ that haue lyke

name.

name. But I take the ymage of ỹ glose of the doctryne by my selfe of me fyrst gyuen in ỹ collocacions of dyctions. And I haue for the Dygestes fayre Iunipera gyuynge a harp to a florentyne, that he waye synge the Jester of Rome. The allegations of ỹ decrete shalbe thus collocated, for a mayden is set for ỹ allegation. And this mayden maketh acloth or a cedule. And set for the question ỹ fayre Iunipera beatynge her mayde. And for the consyderation I set a preste consecratynge the hoost. And for penaunce I set Iunipera shryuyng her to me of her lyght synnes.

The.ix.conclusyon shalbe, that I wyll shew how place ought to be gyuen to ỹ rubrysshes of eche lawe, & set two ymages for ỹ same as I am wont, for yt I wyll remē-

bze me of the rubzysshe of transactiō I set Thomas hauyng frogges oz the gest of the body. I feyn two men that wolde nat of longe tyme cease theyz contenslon and debate and gyuynnge eche to other tokēs of peace. That is the fayze ymage of the rubzysshe of the translactions But the pzyncypples of the lawes where as chappyters be set in place by alphabete oz sounde of voyce sy mylytude oz gestures of the body, wherof is spokē afoze and playnly ynoughe,

The.x. is in collocatynge, argu mentes. Foz the whiche I am accustomed to set two images. The fyzst is the gest of ỹ body, as yf one layd thus. The testamēt a vayleth to none but yf it be made with. vii. witnesses. Therfoze I feyne the te-statour to haue made this testamēt

befoze

before two wytnesses, and a ryng that sealeth the sayde testamente. The seconde ymage is it that collo gateth two other diction more prin cypall of the argument. Take here of an example, thou Jurisconsul, of this philosophres wote my mea= nynge. When in the act the wyll is demaunded of any, he ought to pro cede. Here be sondry wordes, but it suffyseth to collocat & set the wyll fro procedynge. And than we may say by and in memory ỹ other par= tyes of the argument of the collo= cation of two or thre dyctions. The other thynges we shall recyte ele= gantly, & beleue this ỹ the mayster hath experymēted it ryght well.

The .xi. conclusyon, and thus I haue the ymages vnto the no of a C. whiche are .x. I haue also .x. ymages of the nombre begynninge

from one to ỹ nõbze.x. The whiche I haue dyuyded on the fyngers of men. I haue gyuen to the fyrst fynger of the ryght hande for the fyrst nõbze, or for one. The seconde for ỹ secõde, or for two. And so I procede to ỹ.iiii. fynger of the left hande. And bycause that these thynges may the better be retayned in mynde. I saye the fyrste fynger of the ryght hande to be of the Gelses, The secoude of the Gelbilayts. The thyrde of the Jewes the forth of the rynges. The v. of the eares. And so of the lefte hande I call the fyrst fynger of the Gelses, for Gelses be estemed ryche and of great estymation; the seconde of the Gelbelayts. And the thyrde of the Jewes, For yf ye poynt to a Jewe with that fynger he wyll loke away fyersly. And who that wyll knowe the cause, shall fynde it

euydent. Therfore I call the forthe and the. v. euen so for the nombre of a M. I haue set here, yf any nō=bre be to me ꝓposed easyly to haue the ymage of the same. The conclu syon is suche, yf any shulde alke yf that in one selfe place he ought to set many thynges. I answere thus yf I wolde put the thynges in pla=ces that are ꝓpoled to me of other bycause that I ought forthwith to reherce the sayde thinges ꝓpoſed I wyll collocat onely in the place the ymages of one thynge. But yf I dyspose to set in places the thyn=ges that I rede in my bokes, so that I maye reryte by herte in remem=brynge them, I doubt nat to set very often in one pla=ce the ymages of ma ny thynges.

The.xii. conclusyon shalbe verty pzopze. That is I wyl make and shewe in what maner ought to be made the ymages of nombzes foz all nombzes that we can thynke I haue onely founde.xx. ymages. And therfoze I wyll describe them chyefly, Foz ỹ nombze of.x. I take a great crosse of golde oz syluer, foz the nombze of.xx. I take the symylytude of ỹ lettre of yzen oz of wood vnioyned to any thynge that is rounde. Foz we shall wzyte the nõbze of.xx. in ỹ carde oz scroll in this maner, oz foz.xxx. and ỹ symilytude of this fygure is coniunct in thys maner to the thynge. Therfoze I shall fynde some examples whiche I wyll set wherby the reder maye vnderstande in the moze easyly, although it be of a rude wyt oz conclusiõ, yt I wyl say.ii.q.iii. I must haue a gelfe in the place holdynge

in his

in his ryght hande a crosse. and a Jewe that with all his strengths seketh to take it fro hym by vyolēce of that made fro the ryghthande. Yf I wyll say. ti. Corinthios. iiii. I wyll feyn the Gebelyn in the place that shall holde a curtayne in his ryghthande shewynge it to a fayre mayden whiche shall receyue it in her ryghthande, for the fourth fynger I wyll set a mayden maryed. And so I collocat and set for the. iiii. and. ix. nombre, yf I wyll remembre me of penaunce in the. iiii. dystynction, I wyll colloke an olde preeste and nat yonge to whom Junipera shal shryue her fautes. And she shall do a woūderous thynge, for she shall absolue the preste holdynge her ryght hande ouer his head, and so of the other. And bycause that this be nat that proceesse let vs here make an ende of the

arte

art of memory artificyall, and pre-
ceptes, of whome all thynges is
cõprised simplycytyuely, at ỹ lest so
explycitynely to leaue any thynge,
that I promysed to wrytte in
this place to Judge an vtyle
thynge herin in place to set in
ỹ. v. place a hande of gold
In the. x. a crosse gyl-
ted, in ỹ. xv. a hãde
of syluer. And
in the. xx. ỹ
ymage
of ỹ
same nombre. And this my
doctryne teacheth for to
do in all other
thynges.

Thus endeth the art of memory/other wyse called the Phenix. Translated out of frenche in to englyshe by Roberte Coplande. And Imprynted at London in Flete-strete at the sygne of the George by Wyllyam Myddylton.